



Biokemiska Institutionen, Uppsala

April 2, 1968

AT/mr

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Director, Kennedy Laboratories
for Molecular Medicine
Stanford University
School of Medicine
Palo Alto, Calif.
USA

Dear Dr. Lederberg,

Since 1956 the Nobel Foundation has organized, as a new activity, "Nobel Symposia," being essentially round-table conferences on topics related to one or another of the five Nobel prize fields, that is physics, chemistry, physiology or medicine, literature and peace. The membership is strictly limited (about 25 being invited). The participants are the guests of the Foundation while in Sweden (or Norway) and their travelling expenses are also included in the invitation. The papers presented and the discussion (or part of it) are published rapidly in the series "Nobel Symposia" (Almqvist och Wiksell, Publ. Stockholm and John Wiley and Sons, New York-London). So far volumes I, II, III and V have appeared and IV, VI are in the press and will appear shortly. Enclosed you will find a small information brochure and a list of Nobel Symposia already held as well as of those planned for the near future.

Since more than a year plans have been discussed to organize (tentatively in Sept. 1969) a symposium related to all the five Nobel prize fields under the proposed title: "Science, Arts, Peace and Human Welfare. A Symposium on Alfred Nobel's ideas in a changing world."

Obviously this would be a very ambitious undertaking, and some people may possibly ask why we should attempt such a thing, when similar initiatives have now become "en vogue" in many countries, for example in connection with anniversaries of universities, academies etc. We feel, however, that the Nobel Foundation, by its traditions and by the good relations it enjoys with representatives of the world elite in many fields, might have a favorable position in trying to mobilize a selected few of great authority to speak of urgent world

problems in a particularly favorable atmosphere as provided by the Nobel Symposia. We have been encouraged to believe so in view of the favorable response given to our Symposia so far. But this is not a sufficient argument. We believe that there is reason to hope that something useful could come out of the proposed gathering in a world full of complications and disagreement. The authority of such a group should weigh heavily in the public mind and hopefully also among politicians. In order to avoid the risk of the discussions becoming too general or too diffuse, we have in mind to formulate a program based upon a number of rather specific questions, if possible oriented towards concrete and realistic answers or recommendations, even if a concluding "manifest" or declaration" need not necessarily be aimed at. You will find such a tentative ./. program enclosed in this letter.

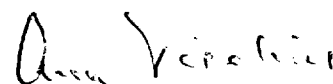
We feel, however, that we cannot proceed without some help. Therefore we have agreed to submit our plans and our program - as far as they have been worked out - to a selected few people already at this stage to ask for their advice and suggestions (title, program, time, suitable participants from different countries, etc.). We hope also that they will be interested to receive an official invitation to participate in the Symposium if and when the plans are definitely worked out.

You and I have corresponded earlier (e.g. your letter June 24, 1964) about questions of the kind which may be discussed at such a symposium, and you have been kind enough to send me some interesting articles relating to such subjects. I also remember that you once or twice mentioned the Nobel Foundation as a suitable sponsor for an exchange of views on several urgent topics. This has been on my mind ever since, but I have waited until I could suggest a framework for such a venture.

Thus we would highly appreciate if you would be willing to accept this preliminary invitation to participate in the proposed symposium and to give us whatever suggestions, comments and advice you find suitable.

With my kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,



Arne Tiselius

NOBEL SYMPOSIA
in 1965, 1966 and 1967

| Nr | Title | Organizers | Time and place |
|-----|--|---|------------------------|
| I | Muscular afferents and motor control | Professor R. Granit | 1-4/6-65, Stockholm |
| II | Prostaglandine | Professor S. Bergström | 6-8/6-66, Stockholm |
| III | Gamma Globulins. Structure and control of synthesis of γ -globulins | Professors A. Tiselius and J. Waldenström | 12-17/6-67, Stockholm |
| IV | Current Problems of Lower Vertebrate Phylogeny | Prof. E. Jarvik and E. Stensiö | 12-16/6 67, Stockholm |
| V | Fast reactions and primary processes in chemical kinetics | Prof. S. Claesson | 27/8-2/9-67, Stockholm |
| VI | Problems of international literary understanding | The Royal Swedish Academy | 17-20/9-67, Stockholm |
| VII | The international protection of human rights | The Norwegian Nobel Committee of the Norwegian "Storting" | 25-27/9-67, Oslo |

NOBEL SYMPOSIA

in 1968

| <u>Nr</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Organizers</u> | <u>Time and place</u> |
|-----------|---|---|---|
| VIII | Elementary Particle Theory | Professor Nils Svartholm, Göteborg (Gothenburg) | 19-26/5 1968, Göteborg |
| IX | Mass-motions in Solar Flares and Related Solar Phenomena | Professor Yngve Öhman, Stockholm (Saltsjöbaden) | 10-12/6 1968, Anacapri, Italy (the Sun Observatory of the R. Acad. of Sci., Sweden) |
| X | Disorder of the Skull Base Region | Professor Carl-Axel Hamberger and Dr. Jan Wersäll, Stockholm | 13-17/8 1968, Stockholm |
| XI | Symmetry Principles in Bio- logical Systems at the Macro- molecular Level | Professor Arne Engström Stockholm | 26-28/8 1968, Stockholm |

NOBEL SYMPOSIA

in 1969

| Nr | Title | Organizers | Time and place |
|------------------------|--|---|--|
| Still | Pre-diabetes. Genetical Bio-chemical and Clinical Aspects | Professor Rolf Luft, Stockholm | spring 1969, Stockholm |
| not defin- itely | Radiocarbon Variations in Atmo- sphere in Relation to Absolute Chronology of Tree-rings, Varved Clay and Archaeology (final title not fixed) | Dr. Ingrid U. Olsson i.a. (head leader not decided) Uppsala | spring 1969, Uppsala (or Stockholm); possibly delayed until early autumn 1969 |
| fixed | Control of human fertility | Professor U. Borell, E. Diczfalussy and Dr. Elisabeth Sjövall | Sept. 1969. Place not fixed |

Tentative program of the planned Symposium on Science, Arts, Peace and Human Welfare.

Monday: The development of science and the welfare of mankind

Tuesday: The role of education in the ethics in a changing world

Wednesday: Scientists, government and the man in the street

Thursday: Strategy or research in a suffering World

Friday: Pathways to peace